

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER: Sen. Rosenbaum

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 06/30/15

Action: Do Pass The B-Eng Bill.

Meeting Dates: 06/30

Vote:

Senate

Yeas: 7 - Burdick, Devlin, Johnson, Monroe, Roblan, Shields, Steiner Hayward

Nays: 5 - Girod, Hansell, Thomsen, Whitsett, Winters

House

Yeas: 8 - Buckley, Gomberg, Huffman, Komp, Nathanson, Rayfield, Read, Williamson

Nays: 4 - McLane, Smith, Whisnant, Whitsett

Prepared By: Theresa McHugh, Budget Analyst

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes 15-member Task Force on Campaign Finance Reform. Specifies membership, charge and reporting requirement. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

Fiscal Provisions of the measure.

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Oregon statute requires disclosure of contributions and expenditures related to any candidate, measure or political party active in any election including initiative, referendum and recall petition drives. All political committees and chief petitioner committees are required to file all contributions and expenditures using the online campaign finance reporting system, ORESTAR.

Current Oregon law requires all contributions and expenditures by a candidate or political committee be reported electronically within 30 days, except for the 42-day period prior to an election, when transactions must be reported within seven calendar days. Even with this increased frequency of reporting, campaigns have waited to report expenditures until seven calendar days before the election and delayed reporting until the last possible moment. The result of the current expenditure reporting deadlines is that voters have no information on who is funding campaign activities late in an election cycle.